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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/02/2017 TAGS: <u>PREL PTER KPAO IZ</u>

SUBJECT: EMBASSY APPROACHES TO IRAQI MFA ON AL-ZAWRAA

TELEVISION

REF: STATE 83110

Classified By: Political Counselor Matthew Tueller, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 11. (C) Political Counselor made reftel paragraph one points to Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Abbawi June 19. Abbawi welcomed the idea and noted it would require coordination with several GOI ministries.
- 12. (C) Deputy PolCouns followed up with Abbawi on August 1. Abbawi said the Foreign Ministry had asked the Prime Minister's Office to draft a letter to ArabSat requesting closure of al-Zawraa. Abbawi said he would look into whether the PM's office had sent the letter. CROCKER